

AMERICAN UFO COMMITTEE REVIEW

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The American UFO Committee Review is published irregularly. It is the official informational organ of the Committee available with membership. All material should be sent to our Editorial Office, 2875 Sequoyah Drive, Atlanta Georgia-30327. Membership, including subscription is available at \$2.00 per annum. The Committee is a non-profit research and publicity organization with nine foreign countries. AMUFO is a member of the United UFOlogical Association (UUA), and subscription to its principles of integrity in UFO news reporting and cooperation between UFO groups and publications. Comments are invited.

IN THIS ISSUE:
AN INSIDE LOOK AT AIR FORCE
PRACTICES IN VIRGINIA

see page six



Prof. Ernest Gehman

TIMES DISPATCH
Richmond, Va.



This Sketch Typical of Many Reports



UFO Described by Horace Burns

THE ROANOKE TIMES
Roanoke, Virginia

PRESS-TIME FLASH: Contactee George Adamski died in Washington April 23 of pneumonia. Adamski was on a lecture tour at the time.

EDITORIAL:

THE UFO MOVEMENT IN MIDSTREAM

Once again we must extend our regrets on to the readers on the many delays we have encountered in publication. It seems that UFO publications have some unknown inherent quality that makes them irregularly issued, regardless of the size and status of the organization they are connected with. It is not due to (at least in our case) any inactivity on the part of the group, it just happens for one reason or another.

It is rare that the editor of a UFO magazine talks to his readers about the problems of conducting a group, I suppose because they fear the reader will simply not be interested. As a result, it is a little-known fact that there seems to be a major gulf existant between UFO groups leaders and group members which resembles somewhat the contrast between lay congregants and the clergy. In a scientific movement such as UFOlogy, particularly a movement dealing with a subject so fluid and controversial as the UFO's, such as schism as this is not at all desirable. With this in mind, I would like to point out a few of the burdens we bear which most members will probably know little or nothing about.

Our biggest problems is the vicious competition. While the great feuds of yester-year are virtually extinct in UFO circles, and dispites the cries of "cooperation" from many corners, UFO groups are probably as uncooperative today as they ever were. They fall into several divisions.

First they're the aristocrats. These consist mainly of large and well respected, long-established organizations. They shun all contacts with other "lesser" groups, and constantly beat the drum of "if you'd only get behind us, everything would be peaches and cream for UFOlogy." To which I say nuts. They also clamor about being the "only effective group," which is, of course, sheer nonsense. One thing should be made crystal-clear; THERE ARE AT PRESENT NO EFFECTIVE UFO GROUPS. This may sound harsh, but the death-stroke to the "successful group" claims is that unfortunately, the UFOlogy status quo is pretty much the same as it was eighteen years ago when it all begun.

Then there are the "believers!" "Let me make it clear that I'm not talking about the contacts groups which would require an entire article unto themselves!" I am refering to the non-contactee groups that seems to accept every UFO report as a "flying saucer from outer space." This type of group will resent it if you even hint that a sighting may be a hoax.

Of course we can't forget the head-beaters. I guess I'll have to bite my tongue and include AMUFO in this catagory. These groups do a lot of talking about getting the UFOlogy movement moving, and a lot of running around on behalf of one cause or another, but wind up doing no more than any of the countless other groups that have tried and failed before.

We don't intend to insult any of these groups here. Indeed, we are attempting to do just the opposite. We are calling for an end to aristocracy, "believers", and head-beating, and to all the other petty nonsense that has brought down the field for so many years. The best way you members can help is by letting the groups you belong to know you agree with us. After all, it's your fight too.

SIGHTING REPORTS: THE FLAP CONTINUES

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
SECOND CONGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC UFOLOGISTS

Open session-Saturday June 26, 1965
8:30 P.M.

Pleasant Valley Junior High Auditorium
9906 Pleasant Valley Road
Parma, Ohio (Cleveland suburb)

- * Non-Profit Event
- * Slides-Photos
- * Lectures
- * Rocketry Exhibits

An event not to miss!

The "big flap" is still going on. With this issue, we more-or-less complete our coverage of the 1964 segment of the flap, though we expect we will have some "stragglers" for you in the next issue, plus some more of the new '65 reports. The photo at the left is of the Glassboro, N.J. saucer crater, which, with all due respect to NICAP, Saucer News, and others who consider it authentic, seems like an obvious hoax to your letter. The photo is from NICAP's UFO Investigator. Whenever you have a series of reports like we're having now, there are always those who will "beef" things up with a hoax here and there. But on the whole the sighting of the current flap have been remarkably

reliable. Here's a look at some of them:

September 7: The Glassboro, New Jersey crater case (see above). Several depressions in the earth were found, alleged to have been caused by "a red object." A number of factors too detailed for this summation leads us to conclude that the whole affair was a rather childish hoax.

September 5: (news clipping; actual sighting was on September 6th) Mr. Percy Harrison and his wife sighting a star-like object through a bedroom window, keeping it in view for about 15 minutes, after which it vanished behind a chimney. Harrison trained binoculars on the thing and went "all goose-pimply." The sighting took place in Salford, Lancs., England. The air ministry and Jorell Bank could offer no explanation. But Mr. Parrison stated, in the Daily Express, " . . . I think it was a flying saucer." (CREDIT: TUFUS)

September 11: Mrs. Karen Campbell was driving her automobile to Tonca City, Oklahoma in the evening when a UFO swerved over her car and went by with a rushing noise, and she described the object as being about 4 feet high, oval shaped, and dull copper in color. It had a bubble on top and "some kind of centerpiece" underneath. [SOURCE: Saucer News, Fate]

September 20: About half a dozen persons sighted a multi-lighted object in flight over Rio Dell, California. It appeared at 9:50 PM and was visible for more than half an hour. [CREDIT: Fate]

Sightings reports- continued

September 21: An object, cigar-shaped and bright, cut across the sky over Northern California, in the Eureka-Redwood City area. The sighting may be related to the above (Sept. 20th) incident, due to the similar location and description. Three patrolman in Alameda County said it looked like a "flying saucer submarine". An Air Force explanation--that the object was a jet contrail---is utterly absurd and is thoroughly refuted in the January, 1965 issue of Fate. (CnEDIT).

Oct. 10: A UFO was sighted by a single person (name withheld) in Hasting, Michigan at 9:01 PM, and was held in view for about 4 minutes. The object was seen through binoculars, and was noted to pass in front of many stars, thus indicating solidity. The size of the object was equated to a head of a pin at arm's length. Apparently it moved in a straight line, North to South, leading us to speculate that this may have been an earth satellite. (CnEDIT: CFSIB Newsletter)

Oct. 12: Citizens of Gateshead, England reported sighting glowing pink discs flying overhead in the evening. "I got the shock of my life," stated Mrs. Oliva Turnbull in the Evening Chronicle. "The first thing I thought of was flying saucers. It was eerie. I can't think of what they could have been. No, I still don't believe in flying saucers. "Mrs. Turnbull's son apparently is a little quicker to believe what he saw. He said simply, "They must have been saucers." The Acklington Meteorological Office weekly reported a "shooting star in the vicinity, "but this would hardly explain the multiple objects sighted (CnEDIT)-Orbit

Oct 24: Another object moving East to West was sighted by the same person (see above) sighting an object on October 10th. The object crossed the horizon in 1½ minutes (SUUnCE)-CFSIB Newsletter

Oct 24: UFO's were sighted above Helsby, England late in the evening, says the Huncorn Weekly News-Robert Britland, who sighted the object at about 10 PM reports----saw a revolving light hovering over towards Prodsnam Marshes. It was stationary for about three minutes, and I could make out a big saucer shape with a dome on top. "It then proceeded on towards the Southwest. Another sighting was made the following night, again seen by Mr. Britland. Other witnesses included Mr. and Mrs. Michael Antrobus. (CnEDIT)- Orbit

Nov. 7: A bright, star-like object was sighted moving at an irregular speed, zig-zagging from West to East. It was bluish-white in color, and was seen through 7x35 binoculars and an 80 power telescope. It was sighted by members of the Midwestern Aerial Phenomena Association. (CnEDIT: CFSIB Newsletter)

Nov. 27: According to the Atlanta Constitution, "Driver and passengers aboard a Trailways Bus en route from Cedertown to Atlanta early Friday (Nov. 27) were mystified by the actions of an unidentified object.

Sighting reports-continued

described as a green glow, that followed the conveyance between Cedertown and Dallas, Georgia." The driver, Mr. Earl Griddley, at first thought the object was a meteor. But the UFO "seemed to drop to earth, and then rose again. "At one point Griddley stopped the bus so the passengers could get out and watch the object. He continued, "It followed my bus, and it would stop when the bus stopped, and start again when the bus started. As we got to Dallas, it all of a sudden vanished, like a light turned out." (SOURCE: AMUFO Files, from the Atlanta Constitution)

A BRIEF LOOK AT THE CURRENT FLAP

This "year," which really began in April, 1964 and is still going on as of this writing, has been the most fantastic period for the UFO on record. Its not just the great number of the reports. It is the nature of the sightings that make it a fantastic, not-to-be-forgotten time we are living in. Notice, if you will, the great number of reports leaving some form of physical evidence. Craters, burns, radiation, etc. And also, note the number of cases where UFO's have chased--literally chased--cars and buses.

But with all this, I don't think many people would say that the actual publicity THIS FLAP HAS RECEIVED is anywhere near what this UGHT to RECEIVE. It does not, in our opinion, even approach the cross-country headlines--type reporting of 1952. The press can't use the much-quoted excuse that they "need a new angle on saucers." This flap is chock-full of new angles of all kinds. The truth is, the press was "selling" us this line for years, but that's all it is; a line, a brush-off!!!

There is really nothing we can do about this, except to try and let people know what is going on ourselves. There are some sympathetic ears in the press. Perhaps we can wake others up. The sightings are here. All we have to do is get people to examine the ever-growing case for the UFO's.

You may ask just what this flap has done towards bringing the UFO mystery to a solution. Our answer at this point would have to be "nothing." In fact, the big flap of 1964-65 with all of its new twists and strange turn-about only adds to the enigma---and, I must say, points once again to the pressing need for responsible investigators, designed to GET ANSWERS; and get them as rapidly as is humanly possible. Allen Greenfield

ATTEND THE CONGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC UFOLOGISTS, JUNE 26th, 1965!!!! Members ARE urged to stay at the Holiday Inn, 16501 Brookpark Rd. The main session will be held at 8:30 PM, June 26th at the Pleasant Valley Auditorium, 9906 Pleasant Valley Rd. Parma, Ohio (suburb of Cleveland) See you there!!!!

SUBSCRIBERS!!!

Your subscription may be due for renewal!! You can help AMUFO by sending \$2.00 now. Support our organization. AMUFO, 2275 Semuoyah Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, 30327. AMUFO is a member group of the United UFOlogical Association (UUA), and subscribes to its code of cooperation between UFO groups and integrity in UFO information reporting.

the inside picture

AIR FORCE MACHINE ROLLS IN VIRGINIA

January, 1965 will long be remembered as the month Virginia came into its own with flying saucers. We have recorded sightings averaging more than one per day. In this area, many of them of a spectacular nature. In fact, this was one of the most impressive things about the entire wave of sightings. It contained an unusually high number of reports falling beyond the run-of-the-mill kind we are generally accustomed to hearing about, including everything from "landing" reports in Augusta County, Virginia, to Air Force jets chasing UFO's over Washington, D.C. For a time, reports were making local papers virtually every day.

Now that some time has passed since this flurry of reports, we may look at it with something like an objective perspective. We will pay particular attention to the investigations and practicing by the Air Force team--on the scene. Their UFO project sent a team in after the first key sighting of a pyramid-shaped object on the ground by Mr. Horace Burns. A private investigator, Prof. Ernest Gehman (see cover photo), stated that he had detected radiation at the site of the alleged landing. The AF team "found", as would be expected, no trace of any radioactivity.

During the earlier sightings the team remained fairly candid in their comments to the local newspapers and interested citizens. But when it became apparent that this was an unusually large series of reports, they reverted to their more classical style of inaccurately (but authoritatively) debunking everything in sight (or out of sight as the case may be). Before long Major Quintenella, head of the entire AF UFO circus arrived on the scene with his usual stock statements and important-sounding but meaningless figures.

In a speech before the Press Club of Virginia, the Major stated that there were "only 16" reports during '64 which still remain unexplained. He failed to mention that this figure is derived from only those reports which the Air Force had received. Independent evidence shows that in a given year the Air Force might receive a third of all the reports made. Beyond this there is the additional (if somewhat anticlimatic) fact that their figure of 16 unknowns is a sharp rise over their figures for the year before. Further, it shows a continued increase in reports each year over the past several years.

The AF also engaged in other word-plays in an effort to lull the Virginia populace away from any further interest in the UFO field. The asserted in a number of newspapers that Virginia was the only area where UFO's were being seen at the time. Their logic here, we presume, was to "shape" the Virginians out of seeing anything more in the skies. The tactic apparently worked, because the local press fell for it hook, line, and sinker. If they had bothered to check the AF claim, they would have found that reports were going on in a number of other places at the same time, including a minor wave of reports on the West Coast.

We are given the reason to wonder whether the AF was "hiding the facts" as some have us to believe, or if the team charged with investigating UFO's on behalf of the United States Air Force really didn't even know what was going on elsewhere in the country. Perhaps it is some of both.

At any rate, UFOlogists have another set of reports to keep them happy, and we can all sleep securely again tonite, because our Air Force is on guard.

The Editor

WAVENEY GIRVAN DIES

In recent months, it is sad to note, the column of researchers who are no longer with us has increased greatly. Wilber Smith, Frank Scully, and now Mr. Waveney Girvan. The late Mr. Girvan was a leader of British UFology, and the editor of Flying Saucer Review. Death came on October 22nd, a few weeks after undergoing a major operation. It is our understanding that the Review will continue, or, at least, so says Orbit, another outstanding British UFO publication.

CONGRESS PLANS PROCEED

Two nation-wide conference calls on the upcoming Second Congress of Scientific UFologists have been held, and a national congress coordinating committee has been set up and approved. This year's Congress is slated to be held again in Cleveland, Ohio on June 26th and 27th. First session will be Saturday evening June 26 at 8:30 P.M. AMUFO strongly urges you to attend this historic event. Joining AMUFO in endorsing the Congress are THE OBJECTIVE JOURNAL OF UFO, the Aerial Phenomena Investigation Commission, the New Jersey Association of Aerial Phenomena, SAUCER NEWS, the Cleveland UFology Project, Flying Saucers Magazine, Controversial Phenomena and others.

AMUFO BOOK DELAYED

We announced in our last issue that AMUFO plans to publish a yearbook shortly, but due to the great influx of reports and numerous technical problems, there will be some delay. We regret this, but as noted in our editorial, it is extremely difficult for even the largest groups to meet deadlines. But the book-when it does come out-will be worth the wait, and the \$1.00 it costs. If you want to reserve a copy (the price will go up once we go to press), send a dollar along to our Cleveland Office (3403 W. 119 Street). This book does not claim to be a solution to the UFO mystery, or an amazing journey into the world of the UFO. It will be a spirited and interesting account of the UFOs, and will, we hope, be both entertaining and informing to the reader.

VENUS ? COULD BE...

Baltimore (AT) - The clouds surrounding the planet Venus are composed of water in the form of ice particles, a team of Johns Hopkins University astrophysicists says. The scientists said the finding of water vapor on Venus raises the possibility of oxygen in its atmosphere. They based their reasoning on calculations that all of Earth's oxygen could be accounted for by the releasing of oxygen from water vapor in the upper atmosphere. The oxygen is freed by the action of sunlight. The latest findings on Venus, earth's twin sister in size, density and general composition, were obtained from an unmanned balloon flight last October 27. The possibilities of a source of oxygen and a previous discovery that its atmosphere contains carbon dioxide raises the possibility that life in some form might exist on the planet.

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The John Hopkins team, headed by Dr. John Strong, concluded the latest data confirmed earlier measurements by Dr. Strong showing the surface temperature to be close to minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit, with only a few degrees difference between the light and dark sides of Venus. Radio telescopes on Earth and the Mariner 2 space probe, which passed within 21,000 miles of Venus in December 1962, indicated the surface temperature was 800 degrees Fahrenheit.

"Interpretation of radio-telescope waves as an indication of temperature has neither been proven or universally accepted," said Dr. Strong, director of the John's Hopkins Astrophysics Laboratory. The John Hopkins scientists suggest that the previous findings may only indicate a large amount of lightning-like electrical activity in the turbulent atmosphere of Venus. In a Navy-sponsored manned balloon flight in October 1959, the university's of Venus. The equipment later was modified to make an unmanned robot telescope system which would be aimed by sun sensors and locked on the planet with a star tracker.

In the first unmanned flight last February, a spectrometer measured water vapor by its absorption of certain infra-red wavelengths in the sunlight reflected off the Venusian clouds. During the latest flight, launched by the Air Force from Holloman Air Base in New Mexico, the telescope measured a different wavelength and obtained readings from the clouds themselves. Hovering at 86,000 feet, the telescope locked on Venus for more than three hours. The scientists concluded that the heavy clouds which shroud Venus are composed of particles of frozen water, similar to earth's clouds. They rule out widely held theories that the Venusian clouds are composed of dust or noxious chemicals. (Atlanta Journal, December 7, 1964)

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE ABOVE ITEM

Your editor has never been one who subscribed to the theory that UFO's (presuming for the moment they are, in fact, spaceships) are from a source within the solar system; but we have and will continue to maintain an open mind about this. Venus, which the Mariner probe had apparently excluded as a possible UFO source is now back in the "running".

One thing the Johns Hopkins scientists may have exploded is the theory that unmanned space probes can be trusted to provide trust-worthy data. If the Johns Hopkins conclusions are accurate, then the Mariner was all wet, and a waste of time and money. I had frankly assumed the Mariner data to be correct, but now with all the conflicting conclusions I'm not so sure. The only advise I can give the perplexed reader is to view all future space probes with caution. They may be wholly accurate in their data, but then again, they may not.

1965 Membership cards are included with this issue. All members are requested to fill out these cards as soon as possible. 1964 cards are hereby invalidated, and are succeeded by the 1965 cards.

*** American UFO Committee Review, Volume 2, Number 1, Whole Number 3. No material contained herein may be reproduced without permission. Editor: Allen Greenfield, Publisher: Rick Hilberg, Directive Board: Allen Greenfield and Rick Hilberg, Allan Manak, Dale Rettig.

This is to certify that

**Is a member of the AMERICAN UFO COMMITTEE for 1966.
This member is authorized to forward factual UFO data to
the Committee for analysis, and is entitled to all the benefits
of membership.**

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